

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secrets unto his servants the Prophets... The Lord God has spoken, who can but prophesy?"—AMOS.

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LETTERS DESCRIPTIVE OF PRESIDENT YOUNG'S VISIT TO THE SOUTHERN SETTLEMENTS.

BY ELDER L. O. LITTLEFIELD.

(From the Deseret News.)

St. George, Washington Co., }
May 10, 1863. }

Editor of the News.

Thursday morning last, the President's party left Washington with kind feelings for its citizens for the generous abundance provided us during our brief visit, and wended our way in a westerly direction for St. George, six miles from Washington. Rising to the summit of a ridge about midway, the President's carriage made a half wheel to the right of the road, which the entire train of carriages imitated as fast as they came up. Remaining at a halt a few minutes, we enjoyed the scene which spread out its mighty map of nature around us. Washington at our right, with its green shade and fruit-trees specked through with dwellings and garden-grounds, bounded from north to south, far beyond, by its circular rim of mountains, with the Rio Virgen sweeping along its southern borders, and green margined brooklets winding through the level farm lands; all this was enchanting, and we cast

long and lingering looks over this boundless scope of unrivalled scenic grandeur before turning to contemplate the scenery at our left, of which St. George formed the focus or great centre of attraction. It lay many feet below us on an extensive plat of land, which slightly descended to the south. On the west of it, ranging from north-west to south-east, are two high air-line ridges, one above the other, behind which sweeps the Santa Clara, which could be seen south-west of us hastening to its junction with the Rio Virgen. Parallel with these ridges, on the opposite side of St. George, ranges a more broken ridge of red rock, above which, in the far off distance, the bristling peaks of mountains pierce the blue heavens.

On this eminence the Presidency were met by an escort, and, wheeling into line, away we moved down to the level plain and soon entered St. George, the new and delightful home of about fifteen hundred Saints. We passed under a flag that waved proudly aloft

in the free breeze of heaven, as if eager to exhibit its ample unfoldings and show that it was the product of the soil over which it now floated, and of the element in which it so gallantly careered. A bale of cotton was also raised to the top of the flagstaff as the Presidency advanced, while bunches of cotton yarn, carded and spun here, were suspended at its base. The Presidency were entertained at the residence of Elder Erastus Snow, while we were invited to the homes of old friends, endeared by the associations of past years. Being much fatigued, no meeting was held that day, and, as if by common consent, all indulged in the luxury of rest.

On Friday morning the President's party and many of the citizens started for Santa Clara, lying north-west of here, six miles distant. We moved out of town, and passing round the point of Black Ridge, soon came in view of the broad bottoms of the Santa Clara river, clad in the green livery of spring. Within about a mile of the settlement we crossed what had once been a river of melted lava belched forth from its volcanic craters, eight miles north of us, amid those red and grey mountain crags. Such a sight I never saw before; but there it was, though mute and silent, yet bearing testimony of itself that once upon a time a broad, livid, glowing, burning, scathing stream flowed down to the Santa Clara, causing its waters to boil and hiss and steam with the terrible intensity of its heat. This mass of lava may be a hundred feet deep, and it spreads out over the level plain for three-fourths of a mile in width. There it is, charred and cinder-like—sharp, rough and uneven—presenting, perhaps, the self-same sombre aspect it has borne for ages. We entered the settlement and found a very large congregation in waiting at the meeting-house, who were addressed by Presidents Young and Kimball, and Elders Orson Hyde, George A. Smith and Lorenzo Snow, who expressed themselves delighted with the location and the excellent spirit that pervaded the minds of the assembly. They gave much valuable instruction, which was delivered with a copious flow of that good spirit which ever characterizes their discourses.

This is certainly a choice spot. The soil is excellent. They are making extensive preparations for fruit-raising. There are from eighty to one hundred families, all seemingly contented with their location and enjoying the spirit of their religion. They had an English and a Swiss choir here, which seemed to vie with each other in the melody of their songs. Though we could not understand one word of the Swiss, yet it was enchantment itself to listen to the inspiring strains of harmony which even yet wake their echoes in the retentive chambers of memory. The Presidency and party were entertained in their hospitable and quiet homes for an hour, when, with hearts and souls uniting in the warm "God bless you all," we passed from that interesting neighborhood and returned back again to St. George.

St. George has been located about eighteen months, and the citizens have made most wonderful progress in building up their city, which has already become a pleasant habitation for the Saints. The city is already ornamented with shade-trees, which give it a green and cheerful appearance. There are some good houses completed and more in progress of erection, but still there are a good many yet living in tents. The streets are five rods wide, including side-walks, and the blocks contain about seven acres, divided into eight lots. They have extensively started the cultivation of almost every variety of fruit. The first attempt at raising cotton here was near the mouth of the Santa Clara, by what was called the Indian Mission, and they only succeeded in producing about twenty stalks. In 1858 President Young sent a few men to demonstrate the adaptability of this soil and climate to the production of cotton, but the losses they sustained by the washing away of their dams, &c., brought up the price of what little cotton they produced to \$3.65 per lb., and the following year at the cost of \$1.82 per lb. This is said to be a better cotton-growing district than Tennessee.

It is the intention to build a meeting-house here this season, 50 by 100 feet. The basement wall for the St. George hall is completed, which is to be 24 by 48 feet, with two stories. They have

a good adobie tithing-office, and the tithing lot is enclosed by a substantial stone wall. Several of the citizens have enclosed their gardens with good stone walls, rendering everything secure within. Some twelve thousand dollars in labor have been applied upon the ditches which convey the water to their farm-land. The soil here, as well as throughout nearly all this southern country, is composed of red sand, and is said to be very productive. Two saw-mills are in operation in this section, and three more are in progress of erection. It is thought to be as good a stock-raising district here as in Salt Lake valley.

Yesterday afternoon the Presidency and the Twelve, and many others, witnessed the operation of boring an artesian well, in the centre of the public square, which seems to progress but slowly, as it has occupied the time of from three to five hands for a period of three months, owing to the nature of the substances through which they have had to bore. They have penetrated to the depth of 166 feet, 126 of which being through rock. The poles used for boring are sawed out of clear pine timber, the length of 17 feet, squared to 4 inches. These are screwed together with iron joints, and joined to a sinker in the shape of an iron bar, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches square and 11 feet in length. To this the auger is attached, which is shaped after the fashion of a carpenter's shell-bit, and cuts a hole six inches in diameter. It cut at the commencement, thirty feet in three hours, turned by two men. When they strike rock the auger is removed and its place supplied with a drill, and is worked by five hands by means of a spring-pole. In case of quick-sand, entering, it is drawn out by means of a sand-pump, five feet long, formed of heavy double sheet-iron, with a valve at the bottom, which opens as it is forced down, and closes when pulled up. The poles are let down and raised by means of rope, block and pulleys, supported from a frame twenty feet high. In consequence of the ground being soft to the depth of 40 feet from the surface, a pipe made of heavy galvanized sheet-iron has been forced down to that depth by means of a lever power. This is being done at the expense of the city. Mr.

Archibald Sullivan is the chief operator, and seems master of his business. If this proves a success it will be of incalculable worth. If a volume of the liquid element should be forced up to the height of thirty or forty feet, it will not only afford an abundance for irrigation and other uses, but it will be sufficient also to drive machinery. There are thousands of acres of excellent land, distributed in small parcels through this country, too high to be watered from the running streams; but the day will come, when, by means of the artesian well, the cooling fountains will gush forth from the bowels of the earth to water the products of husbandry, and where now is seen nothing but the wild sage, the cactus and prickly pear, flourishing little farms, and orchards and vineyards yielding fruit, will flourish and make the "desert blossom as the rose."

It is true this is a forbidding country when glanced over superficially; but when you come to hunt up the choice spots and prove their excellent adaptation to the raising of cotton and choice fruits, all objections are outweighed. The citizens are, as a matter of course, subjected to some hardships and inconveniences in their early endeavors to reclaim this region from the wilderness of ages; yet, when towns and cities shall arise, polished with the arts and embellishments of civilization, and the blessings of civil government shall overspread this domain, then will the pioneers to all these benefits receive an ample recompense of reward.

On Saturday morning the 9th, at 10 o'clock, the citizens of St. George and the surrounding settlements met under the Bowery, to the number, perhaps, of fifteen hundred, for a two day's meeting. In the forenoon they were addressed by Presidents Young and Kimball and Elder Orson Hyde, and in the afternoon by President Young and Elders John Taylor and Geo. A. Smith. This, Sunday morning, they were addressed by Presidents Young and Kimball, Elders John Taylor and Lorenzo Snow, and in the afternoon by President Young, Elders George A. Smith, Erastus Snow, Geo. D. Watt and J. W. Long. I need not remark at length upon this meeting, as Elder Geo. D. Watt has taken a phonographic report,

feeling into the blessedness of peace. While we partook of that sumptuous banquet, the choir, from their place, performed several glees most skilfully, and, as their melodies thrilled the inspired powers of sensibility, the heart-felt "God bless the Saints of Cedar City" was the mental response of every heart. A civil and well-ordered dance was inaugurated in the evening, which was attended by the most of our company, except the Presidency and the Twelve, who were too much fatigued to take part, and retired to rest. The Presidency were entertained at Bishop Lunt's residence, where every comfort was provided and every want anticipated by his kind and attentive family.

Thus I give you, Mr. Editor, an account of our return, by a new route, from St. George to Cedar City. The country along this route is truly picturesque and romantic. For the most of the distance, however, the road is rough and tedious, but nothing to obstruct loaded teams. The region of country from Pine Valley to Pinto Valley

abounds with a great abundance of grass—in fact, we have not passed through so good a range for stock on the entire route. An abundance of cheese and butter is made there.

I omitted, in the proper place, to state that in St. George we partook of green peas, lettuce, radishes, &c. Mr. Solon Foster has two swarms of bees doing first-rate, and I am informed other swarms were owned in this place. Success to the bees.

Dr. Sprague reports the company in a state of convalescence. I wish to state at the close, that up to the present date of our travels I have not heard one murmur, nor even a petulant word uttered by any person composing the President's party. Every one has seemed to possess a spirit to make everything agreeable. One of the company got hurt by the upsetting of a wagon in Johnson's Twist, but he is well again. We expect to arrive home on next Tuesday, so I presume this communication will be my last, unless something particular shall transpire.

(To be Continued.)

HISTORY OF BRIGHAM YOUNG.

(Continued from page 440.)

In the fall of 1833, many of the brethren had gathered to Kirtland, and not finding suitable employment, and having some difficulty in getting their pay after they had labored, several went off to Willoughby, Painesville and Cleveland. I told them I had gathered to Kirtland because I was so directed by the Prophet of God, and I was not going away to Willoughby, Painesville, Cleveland, nor any where else to build up the Gentiles, but I was going to stay here and seek the things that pertained to the kingdom of God by listening to the teachings of his servants, and I should work for my brethren and trust in God and them that I would be paid. I labored for brother Cahoon and finished his house, and although he did not know he could pay me when I commenced, before I finished he had me paid in full. I then went to work for father John Smith and others, who

paid me, and sustained myself in Kirtland, and when the brethren who had gone out to work for the Gentiles returned, I had means, though some of them were scant.

In February, 1834, I married Mary Ann Angel, who took charge of my children, kept my house, and labored faithfully for the interest of my family and the kingdom. While the Prophet Joseph was gathering up the Elders of Israel to go up to Missouri and assist the brethren that had been driven from Jackson county, I was preaching and laboring for the support of my family. My brother Joseph Young arrived, and I requested him to go with me to Missouri. He hesitated; but while walking together a few days afterwards we met the Prophet, who said to him, "Brother Joseph, I want you to go with us up to Missouri." I informed the Prophet that my brother was doubt-

ful as to his duty about going, to which the Prophet replied, "Brother Brigham and brother Joseph, if you will go with me in the camp to Missouri and keep my counsel, I promise you, in the name of the Almighty, that I will lead you there and back again, and not a hair of your heads shall be harmed," at which my brother Joseph presented his hand to the Prophet, as well as myself, to confirm the covenant. The brethren continued to come in from various parts of the country to Kirtland, and on the 5th of May we started for New Portage, the place appointed for organization.

May 7, brother Joseph Smith and the remainder of the brethren having arrived, we began to organize, and on the 8th, the organization being completed, we started on our journey. We arrived at brother Burgett's, Rush Creek, Clay county, Missouri, on the 23rd of June, and passed through the scenes of cholera and death, as related in the history of Joseph Smith. We remained one week attending to the sick and burying the dead. About seventy of the brethren were attacked with the cholera, and eighteen died.

President Joseph Smith called the members of the camp of Zion together, and told them if they would humble themselves before the Lord, and covenant that they would from that time forth obey his counsel, that the plague should be stopped from that very hour, and there would not be another case in camp, whereupon the brethren with uplifted hands covenanted that they would from that very hour hearken to his counsel and obey his word, and the plague was stayed according to the words of the Lord through his servant.

July 4th, my brother Joseph and myself, in company with several of the brethren, started for home, and walked all the way, arriving in Kirtland in August, having performed a journey of about 2000 miles on foot, in a little over three months, averaging forty miles per day while travelling.

In the fall of 1834, Denis Lake instituted a lawsuit before Justices Downen and Hanson, against brother Joseph Smith, charging him \$30 a month for going up in Zion's camp to Missouri, alleging that Joseph had promised him a lot of land. I was called up by the attorney for the prosecution,

General Paine, and questioned. I was asked if I went up to Missouri with the said camp? I answered I did. I was asked what tools I took with me. I replied, a good gun and bayonet, plenty of ammunition, a dirk, an ax, a saw, a chisel, spade, hoe, and other necessary tools. I was asked what I meant to do with my gun and ammunition. I replied, I meant to defend my property, myself and my brethren from thieves and robbers. I was asked how much I understood a lot of land to mean. I told them, in the burying yard it generally meant six feet. Joseph's attorney, Mr. Bissell, hearing me answer these and similar questions so readily and definitely, punched the prosecuting attorney on the shoulder and asked him if he had any more questions to ask that witness. He said no.

Mr. Collins being examined, testified that Joseph had promised all who would go up in camp should return, and that many had gone up, and when they returned some were dead and some were alive. Joseph's attorney, taking advantage of the witness' words, remarked that the witness had testified that they all returned, and that was all Mr. Collins said Joseph had promised.

Thirty witnesses were summoned to attend this trial (three of whom were sectarian priests,) for the purpose of impeaching the testimony of Joseph Smith, at which they made a signal failure.

I mention such cases, wherein I took a part, in my history, realizing that there are but few of the vexatious proceedings of the world and the apostates, against Joseph, noticed in his history.

I tarried in Kirtland during the fall and winter, quarrying rock, working on the Temple and finishing off the printing-office and school-room.

February 14th, 1835, brother Joseph Smith called a council of Elders, at which the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles were selected in the following order—viz., Lyman E. Johnson, Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, Orson Hyde, Luke Johnson, David W. Patten, William E. McLellan, John F. Boyington, William Smith, Orson Pratt, Thomas B. Marsh and Parley P. Pratt. After the organization of the Twelve and the first Seventy, we held councils frequently, in which we received much

instruction from the Prophet pertaining to the duties of our calling.

May 2.—While the Elders were assembled in council, the Prophet Joseph called upon me to go and preach the Gospel and open the door of salvation to the aborigines, or the seed of Joseph, upon this continent, and Elders Amos Orton and John P. Greene were appointed to accompany me. Brother Joseph said, "This will open the door to all the seed of Joseph."

I started in company with the Twelve on the 4th of May, at 2 o'clock, a.m., and arrived at Fairport at 6 o'clock, where we went on board of a steamboat which was just starting out, and arrived at Dunkirk about 4 o'clock, p.m.

I remained at Dunkirk preaching for a few days. I visited Julius Moreton (a relative of mine), and preached the Gospel to him; but he was not inclined to receive its principles. He was a man considerably advanced in years—had never made a profession of reli-

gion, but was very much of a gentleman. To avoid calling on me to ask a blessing at table, he asked the blessing himself, probably for the first time in his life.

We proceeded to Westfield, where, with our brethren of the Twelve, we attended a Conference. After the Conference was over, the Quorum of the Twelve proceeded eastward, two going together preaching the Gospel and meeting together to hold Conferences in the different Branches, according to previous appointment.

At Lyonstown, N. Y., brothers O. Hyde, William Smith and myself returned to Kirtland, as witnesses for President Joseph Smith in a case before the county court. As soon as we were liberated, we again started and joined the Twelve in holding Conferences, preaching and baptizing, regulating and organizing the Churches through the eastern country. We returned to Kirtland September 25th.

(To be continued.)

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1863.

TITHING AND ITS BLESSINGS.

In consequence of the attention of the Elders and Saints having been concentrated upon the subject of emigration for some time back, the doctrine of Tithing has not received that notice to which, as a practice instituted by the Lord, it is fully entitled. As the emigration season is closed for the present year, it is but right that the minds of all should be recalled to the contemplation and the practice of this important principle. This is the more necessary at the present time, as upon its observance we conceive the success in raising the necessary means to get away another year, to a very great extent, depends. There is a blessing connected with the payment of Tithing, to which those who have faithfully attended to it can abundantly testify. It is a fact, often noticed and commented upon by the Elders, that they who are the most punctual in the payment of Tithing and in the discharge of the other duties devolving upon them, are the most likely of any others to be able to accomplish their deliverance from Babylon.

So much is this the case that every spring, since we have been in this Mission, we have heard the Elders express their wonder as to how they would be able to keep matters moving in their fields, as all their best Tithing and Mission Fund payers and subscribers for the STAR and JOURNAL were emigrating. This feeling did not find utterance so much on account of those who had in their possession, or were in receipt of, the most means being the ones who were emigrating, as it did on account of their being the most faithful and wisely-liberal with what they did have. But no sooner has the emigration started than a new class has arisen in the Branches and Conferences, (partly composed of those who have always been diligent in these matters, and partly of new members and those who have never felt or realized the importance of attending to the payment of Tithing or anything else) who have manifested the same zeal as those did who had emigrated, and who in their turn are enabled to get away.

The unbeliever may doubt, cavil or sneer at the idea of the payment of Tithing being attended with any blessing. The fact, nevertheless, remains unimpeached and unimpeachable that they who do pay their Tithing are prospered and blessed to an extent far beyond those who do not pay it. Two Branches or Conferences of equal numbers and income may be selected: the people of the one pay a portion of their income regularly as Tithing, &c., &c.; the people of the other, feeling themselves too poor, or for some other reason equally weighty in their minds, keep all their means and appropriate it in one way and another for their own personal benefit—and, at the end of a given period, all other things being equal, it will be demonstrated beyond dispute that the Branch or Conference which pays Tithing will be in a much better position, financially as well as spiritually, than the other which neglects this matter. Yet we would not condescend to use the pecuniary advantages resulting from such a course as an argument by itself in favor of the practice of paying Tithing; on the contrary, we venture to say that the man who should pay his Tithing, actuated solely by sordid motives and with the view to benefit his own pocket alone, would be more than likely to be disappointed. Of course, however, in enumerating the advantages which accrue from obedience to this principle this cannot be overlooked or ignored. Either the money itself goes further in the hands of a man who is doing his duty and is obeying the requirements of the Almighty, or he has greater wisdom given him in using it, or, what is without doubt nearer the truth, both these reasons combined cause him to be more blessed than the other who is derelict upon this point.

Though we allude to the payment of Tithing thus pointedly, we do not wish to be understood as wishing its payment to be demanded of or enforced among the Saints under any pains and penalties whatever. We feel that there could be no blessing attend Tithing obtained by any other means than the spontaneous action of the person paying. The Saints should feel, the importance of the principle themselves, and what they do, do willingly, of their own accord. The duty of the Elders is to teach the principle, to set before the Saints its advantages and to endeavor to develop within them a living, active faith in the promises of the Lord on this and kindred points. When this is done under the influence of the Spirit, the people will see the principle in its true light, and be as eager to attend to it as the Elders would expect them to be under their circumstances and with their knowledge. But we are fully convinced that there is a great neglect on the part of many of the Elders in teaching this principle. In their anxiety to attend to other matters they suffer this doctrine to be lost sight of and to fall

into disuse. Some have such a dread of being thought coercive on this subject that they run to the opposite extreme and almost systematically shun all allusion to it. Now, we would be pleased to have the Elders avoid harshness and coercion, but yet understand that, whether the people are in a position to pay their Tithing or not, their duty to their flocks demands that it should be expounded to them in its time and in its season in common with the other principles of the Gospel which the Lord has revealed. How else can a correct understanding of the principle be obtained? They who have it in their power to pay their Tithing, but do not, may, perchance, by hearing the principle taught, receive such light upon the subject and such a testimony respecting its truth and its applicability to themselves, that they may accept as a privilege (which it really is) the opportunity of attending to this matter; and those who may not have it in their power to attend to it may say in their hearts, "I give not because I have not; but if I had, I would give."

As for ourself, we know that the principle of Tithing, as taught and practiced by the Latter-day Saints, is from the Lord, and that the Church has been greatly blessed in obeying it. In Zion we can see the fruits of its observance in the continued increase of the Saints in both heavenly and earthly treasures; and when the various calls which are made upon the people's time and means in that land are taken into consideration, the manner in which the people have been prospered strikes the observer as being miraculous. They illustrate the truth of the words of Scripture: "There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth."

RELEASE AND APPOINTMENTS.

RELEASE.—Elder George A. Wiscombe, President of the Cheltenham Conference, is released from the Ministry by his own request, circumstances requiring him to labor in another direction.

APPOINTMENTS.—Elder Charles Horman is appointed to preside over the Channel Islands Conference.

Elder George Taylor, now laboring in the Herefordshire Conference, is appointed to preside over the Worcester Conference.

Elder Edwin Tufts is appointed to labor as Travelling Elder in the Essex Conference, under the Presidency of Elder George Sims.

GEORGE Q. CANNON, { *President of the Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints in the British
Isles and adjacent countries.*

ABSTRACT OF CORRESPONDENCE.

SWITZERLAND.—By letter, under date of June 20th, from Elder John L. Smith, President of the Swiss and Italian Mission, we learn of his safe arrival in Geneva, after a somewhat tedious and wearisome journey. He says:—

"I spent two days in Rotterdam among a sect which were formerly called New Lights. On Sunday last I spent the most of the day with about twenty of them, and they were well pleased with the history of the Church of Christ and the organization of the same as I laid it before them. I have hopes ere long that they will embrace the Gospel. Two of the men have learned English, so that they can converse very well and can read and write it also. * * *

"The weather has been cold and rainy since I entered into my field, with thunder and lightning and with snow on the peaks rather lower down than ordinary. All the Saints that I have seen, as yet, feel to rejoice that I have come back to them again." * * *

We are in receipt of another letter from Elder Smith, since the above was in type, under date of June 29th, from which we make the following extracts, indicative of the progress the truth is making in that part of the European Mission:—

"Your two favors, one of June 20th and the other of the 26th, are duly to hand, and I feel to thank you from my heart for remembering how much joy it gives me to receive a few lines from you, for I can assure you that I have been extremely lonesome since my return, but have been very busy, so that I have not had time to get very badly homesick. * * *

"I have the best of hopes that we shall soon fill up our Branches by new additions. Since my arrival in Geneva I have already been baptizing, and the prospects are excellent or still more. By letter just received from Stuttgart, in Wurtemberg, from brother John Beck, I learn that baptisms are not unfrequent, that the Saints are rejoicing in the sound of the Gospel and that the Lord has favored them with hearts to receive the same. He says he has the best of hopes that a great work will be done in his father-land, for the Gospel is being received, many are inquiring and several have been baptized within a few weeks past. Elder John T. Gerber writes from Canton Berne that, since he has cut off a few more of those who are unworthy of a standing in the Church of Christ, the meetings are well attended and prospects are good for an increase. Elder Farrer, from Zurich, writes that all is going on much as usual; lack of men who are ready and willing to spend their time and labor for the Gospel seems to hold in check the spread of the truth. This I have found to be the case generally, and when we have men with the big heart they are of no worth. However, we trust the Lord of the harvest will send an abundance of laborers into the field ere long." * * *

GLASGOW.—By letter from Elder William Gordon, of the 22nd ultimo, we were pleased to learn of the safe arrival of Elder Matthew Lyon in his field of labor. Elder G. writes that he is industriously visiting among the Saints, so as to become acquainted with their circumstances and feelings; that the Work of the Lord is progressing favorably in the Scottish District, a number having been baptized in several of the Branches since emigration; that the Priesthood are increasing in number and that the prospect is very favorable for a large increase of numbers in the future.

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E .

AMERICA.

New York, June 19, 1863.

Resident Cannon.

Dear Brother,—The ships *J. J. Boyd*, *Henry Ellis*, *Rowena* and *B. S. Kimball*, have arrived, and the companies forwarded. The latter arrived on Saturday evening last. The passengers landed at 1 o'clock, p.m., on Monday, and were all on their way to Florence at 7 p.m., the same evening. Brother Gaines informed me on his return from Albany, that a sister Westenkoo was confined with a fine boy just 15 minutes before they left Albany; both mother and child were doing well when they parted, at 12.40 p.m., having a comfortable bed made down in the car. There were six deaths in this company

—one old man and five children. One died on the river on Sunday, and one died two hours after they arrived in the Gardens. The *Consignment* has not arrived; we were in hopes that she would have been here in time for her passengers to have gone with the New York company, which left here on Wednesday, the 17th, numbering 109 passengers. I learn that head winds have prevailed for the last few days, which have no doubt caused the detention of the vessel at sea.

Brother J. W. Young received a letter from his father to-day, dated June 4th, informing him all was well and peace at home. Ex-Governor Harding expects to leave Utah soon, and it is supposed that, when that time comes, several of his associates will

accompany him, as they appear to be *low-spirited*, as all their hellish plots have failed. The movements of Lee's armies have caused an immense excitement all through the country. Troops have been leaving this city for the last three days and nights, somewhat to the annoyance of your humble servant, whose bedroom fronts on Broadway, and the sound of drums and fifes and the rattling of army equipments at the hour of 12, midnight, is not very agreeable with a peaceable man. Several thousands have already left here, and, doubtless, many of them have walked down Broadway for the last time. Many of those troops who are leaving are of American birth, and little thought, two weeks ago, that they would be seen so soon marching to the seat of war with a rifle upon their shoulder and a knapsack on their back; but so it is, and many a young man who has left his father's house and its comforts, will see them no more, all their hopes being blasted forever. Many who are left flatter themselves that this great stir will be the best thing that ever has happened for the North, as it will show them that they must wake up and raise men enough to put down the rebellion at one blow.

I feel anxious for this emigration, to have it pass up to Florence and there be out of this excitement; not that I have any fears as to its going through, at the same time I cannot help my feelings.

Brothers J. W. Young, Staines and myself join in kind regards to all of you. Ever praying for your welfare I remain yours truly,

H. S. ELDRIDGE.

ENGLAND.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE DISTRICT.

Sunderland, June 19, 1863.

President Cannon.

Dear Brother.—I take pleasure in writing you a few lines to let you know how we are getting along in this part of the Lord's vineyard. Since the close of the emigration for this season, the Saints seem more than ever anxious to gather home, and are determined to work in earnest for their emancipation, and while we are making efforts for

this object, we are also laboring steadily to advance the principles of truth. We have commenced out-door preaching in several places, and the spiritual inquiry is still among the people. Few are being added to our number, and we realize the field is large and laborers are few; yet we feel anxious to do all we can to advance the interests of our Father's kingdom. The Priesthood are united with me, and willing to do all they can, and while we have opportunity we feel like lifting our voices and crying aloud to the people to repent of their sins and partake of the blessings of the New and Everlasting Covenant.

The Saints, almost without exception are feeling well, and, having received the "pure testimony of the Spirit," desirous of living up to the light and knowledge they have received, that they may grow and increase unto the full stature of men and women in Christ Jesus. There are a few of the *stereotype* amongst us who are just beginning to see they have been in the country long enough, and feel like making an effort to gather. I feel the time is not far distant when those who are not living up to their professions will not be able to stand the test, and it behoves us to be humble before the Lord, seeking to be guided by his Spirit in all things, that we may sanctify ourselves and be enabled to stand the day of His coming. The signs of the times warn us of the approach of that day; and while nations are being scourged for their iniquities, the Saints will be tried, their integrity to the truth will be tested, and those who have not been upon the rock will have to lament when they see their habitations swept away.

Praying God to bless you with every needed blessing, and to roll forth His kingdom in triumph, I remain, as ever your brother,

M. F. FARNSWORTH.

DERBY CONFERENCE.

The subjoined letter from Elder J. G. Holman has been mislaid for several months, but having recently come to light we take pleasure in laying it before our readers, believing that those

ten so long since it will be perused
with interest and profit by our readers.

Derby, December 12, 1862.

Reverend Canon.

Dear Brother.—While reading the
serials in the *Star* the last few weeks
we felt very grateful, for the little
experience that I have had since I have
been in this country has proved to me
the great necessity of such counsel and
instruction being given, and not only
that but strictly complied with, which,
I trust, will be the case. Every person
connected with the kingdom of God
should have the interests of that king-
dom at heart, and should feel that it is
the kingdom of God or nothing with
him; but it is too often the case that
individuals who have a name and stand-
ing in that kingdom, feel that the king-
dom and its interests are one thing, and
themselves and their interests are en-
tirely another. When individuals feel
this way they never have any time
to spend for anything or anybody but
themselves; the kingdom can take care
of itself for all they care; no matter
though the Lord may have blest them
with hundreds of pounds, they do not
think that he requires them to give any
of it for the building up of his king-
dom. They do not care how nor in
what way he builds it up so that he
will not trouble them to help by giving
it, if he has blest them with but
a few, or more if he has blest them with
much. Feelings of this kind too often
enter into the hearts of the Saints who
are abroad among the nations of the
earth. They are willing that their
brethren who have gathered up to Zion
should spend all of their time, talents
and means for the building up of the
kingdom in these the last days, so long
as neither the Lord nor his servants
ask upon them to help, while at the
same time they expect to receive an
equal share of his blessings with those
who do spend all of their time in bring-
ing to pass the great work of the Al-
mighty.

I am happy to say, however, that this
is no means the case with all; there
is a large majority that are willing to
do all that lies in their power to assist
in the great work in which we are en-
gaged,—yes, they would go hungry
and without rest for the sake of giving

the Elders something to eat and a com-
fortable place to sleep when they come
to see them, and for those I pray con-
tinually that the Lord will open their
way to gather up to Zion, where they
may be taught in his ways and walk in
his paths and receive their washings
and anointings, and obtain the gifts
and blessings that he is about to pour
out upon those who are worthy to re-
ceive them. There are some of the
other sort that I have been speaking
of who sometimes start to go up to
Zion, but they do not all get there, for
some fall out by the way, and I wish
all who do not desire to do right would
do the same and not one of them ever
reach there. I saw the mother of one
of this class this week, who had a very
pitiful tale to tell me about how badly
her daughter had been treated at Flo-
rence. "She and her husband had
been treated so badly that they would
go no further with such a set," and
when I came to find out the ill treat-
ment that they had received I was not
much disappointed. The trouble was,
when they got to Florence, those who
were going by the Church teams were
requested, if they had any money, to
give it to the Church agent and let it
apply on their emigration, as it is often
the case that the Church is short of the
necessary means to purchase, for the
Saints, articles which can only be ob-
tained with cash, such as sugar, tea,
coffee, dried fruit, &c. This was what
all the fuss and complaint was about.
One would hardly think, as the Church
trains are sent expressly for the poor,
that individuals who had money to
purchase an over-supply of clothing,
silks, satins, &c., as I understood these
folks did, and then with a surplus of
twenty or thirty pounds in their pockets
besides, would want to go at the ex-
pense of their brethren, and also ex-
pect the Church to find means to buy
necessaries and luxuries for them to
use across the Plains while they had
the means to pay for them themselves.
But such is often the case, and if there
are any calculating to go this coming
year who want and expect to be thus
kindly dealt with, I would advise them
not to start, for they will be liable to
be disappointed before they get to the
end of their journey. I have heard of
a good many complaints that have been

made heretofore, but when their origin has been fully understood they have been proved to have come from disaffected persons, and their real cause to be about as genuine as the above.

I must now draw my letter to a close, lest I weary you. I pray the Lord to bless you with the necessary faith, wisdom and means to enable you to discharge the duty that he has called you to perform, in all its varied ramifications, in such a manner as to be acceptable to him and pleasing to his servants whom he has called to preside over his kingdom upon the earth; and I also pray that all those who have been called, or who may hereafter be called to assist in the great work in these lands, may be faithful and magnify the calling and responsibility that has been placed upon them.

I remain, as ever, your brother in the Gospel,

J. G. H.

SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION.

Isipingo Estate, Natal, }
April 23, 1863. }

President Cannon.

Dear Brother,—I improve the present opportunity of writing you a few lines in order to give you an idea of the progress of the Work in this remote region. President Fotheringham having appointed me to labor in this colony, I left Port Elizabeth, per royal mail steamer *Norman*, in company with Elder A. H. Noon, who resides in Natal and who has been set apart to labor in this Mission: we arrived here on the 1st of March. During brother Noon's residence here, he has done his best to forward the Work. Little preaching has been done in the colony, save in the neighborhood of the Isipingo. Brother N. being an extensive sugar planter, his business required the most of his time; he has published a few works on the first principles, which are now being circulated. Previous to my arrival he had succeeded in baptizing his brother, who rejoices in the Work, also two others. Having obtained one of the brethren from Port Elizabeth to assist him on the estate, we formed a Branch. The brethren pay their Tithing and feel well. The Messrs. Noon have done their utmost to dispose of

their estate; have advertized in the Cape, Port Elizabeth and Natal papers stating their object in selling was to gather to the Great Salt Lake City, Utah; have had views taken and sent to England, &c.; put it up at the auction on the 9th, but no purchasers. Very few, I think, are capable of purchasing a leasehold in this colony. Everything is in apple-pie order; their cane is very promising—if frost keeps off it will make over 400 tons of sugar this season valued at £8,000, at £20 per ton. They are very anxious to sell and gather.

We did not create a great stir, but worked quietly though energetically. The papers announced my arrival, stating I would give information to all desirous of hearing. Brothers Noon opened their house for meeting; quite a number came the first time, and I felt well in talking to them; they were a very respectable auditory. It has rained considerable of late, so that we do not obtain a great many hearers, but those who do come, come again, and I believe are honest and will join ere long. I have baptized one of this number, a young man.

A Mr. S., a gentleman residing at Durban, a seaport town fourteen miles distant, tendered brother Noon the use of a very large new store, without being asked. I should have thought he would have been the last man to do anything as he is no professor of religion, but his acts speak loudly. We stuck up handbills,—the editor, seeing them, must have copied them, as an advertisement appeared in his paper. Mr. S. furnished us with seats, stand, chandeliers &c.; between two and three hundred persons assembled. I spoke on the first principles; was somewhat interrupted at the close, several asking questions wishing to draw us into a discussion which we endeavored to avoid; they evidently thought we were afraid. I desired to know if the audience would wait and I would answer. (Hear, hear, from all quarters.) After answering, considerable discussion ensued between brother N. and myself and two of the opposite side. The result was they made themselves appear ridiculous, one was hissed, &c. Brother N. delivered the next discourse, on the gathering, as so many want to know his reasons for leaving when he is doing

well; about the same number were present, though it was wet. After the lecture, both papers published an account of it. They gave a pretty fair account of the lecture, but a one-sided account of the discussion, but we cannot expect them to tell the whole truth; they would make it appear we were afraid to discuss. At the close of the second lecture, some came charged, but did not explode. We informed them we did not court discussion; it was of our own seeking; we were willing to discuss, at any time or place they chose the same, with two of the best and most talented ministers they had got, at the same time we did not seek it. None have accepted the challenge, nor is there any likelihood of their doing so, as they would only expose their own folly. A spirit of inquiry is manifested among many of the gentry. Brother N. delivered another lecture; about

200 were present. At the close of each of these lectures, about 100 rushed to the stand for pamphlets; we were unable at the time to supply the demand. Durban contains about 2,000 white inhabitants; there are about 15,000 whites in the colony and from 150,000 to 200,000 blacks. Brother N. has hired a store capable of holding 200 persons, possession to be had on the 1st of next month. Scarcely a week passes but what there is something in the papers about us. I feel there is good to be done in this part; feel well in my labors, also Elder Noon; feel like faithfully warning the people, leaving the result with the Lord.

With love to yourself and associates in the ministry, in which the brethren join, I remain your brother in the New Covenant,

HENRY A. DIXON.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

AMERICA.—The accounts from America show that the Confederate army, under General Lee, was steadily advancing into Maryland and Pennsylvania, with so skilful an arrangement of the forces as to render it still uncertain what is the main point against which its attack was directed. It still threatened Harrisburgh, in Pennsylvania, (having approached within about sixteen miles of that city,) and also Baltimore and the rear of Washington. As for the people of Pennsylvania, they seem to be taking the invasion very easily, except so far as many of them were running away. The Governor of New Jersey ordered the troops of that State that had been sent to the assistance of Pennsylvania to return from thence; this countermand is caused by a disagreement between the Governors of the two States. This is one of the bad signs of the weakness of the North. General Hooker was still on the south side of the Potomac. Lee is said to have 150,000 men. There is no doubt that General Grant has again been repulsed with heavy loss in another attack upon Fort Mifflin, and that the Confederates are assembling in great strength in the rear of General Grant at Vicksburgh.

POLAND.—The insurrection continues with unabated vigor, and the Russian Government is adopting more stringent measures against the revolutionists, while the cruelties perpetrated by the Russian troops and officials are almost beyond belief.

SWEDEN AND RUSSIA.—There appears to be some danger of an interruption of the friendly relations at present existing between these two countries. Considerable uneasiness is felt at Stockholm on account of the reconstruction of the fortifications at Bomarsund by the Russian Government.

MADAGASCAR.—A revolution has taken place in that country, resulting in the deposition of the King. The government is carried on under the auspices of the Queen.

GENERAL.—There are prospects of difficulties with China and Japan, and a general European war becomes every day more and more probable.